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4
EXTREMITY
THE FUTURE OF COMICS
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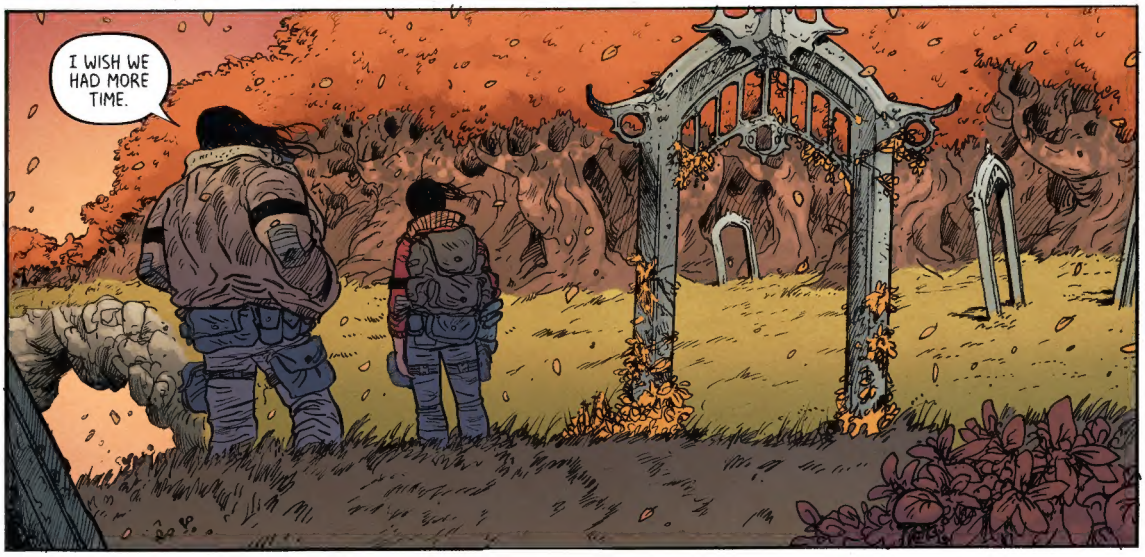
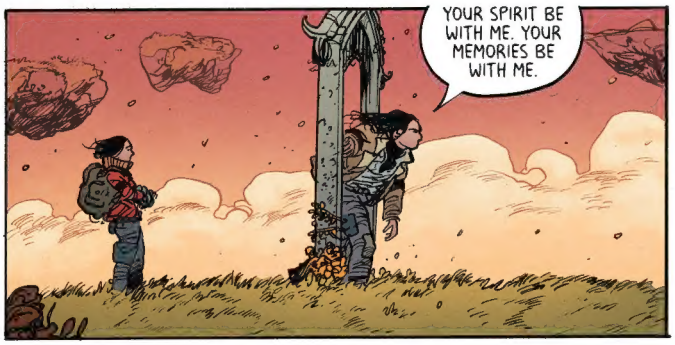
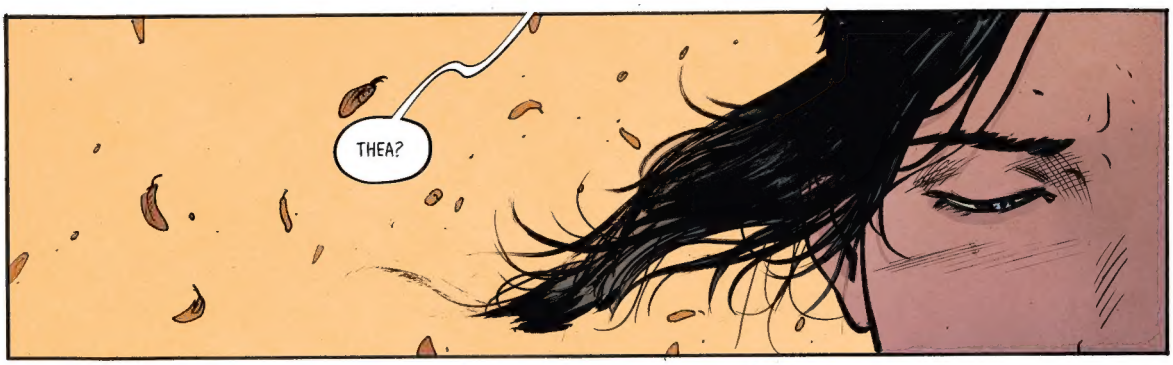
BALA. MY LOVE.


I WISH WE HAD MORE TIME.

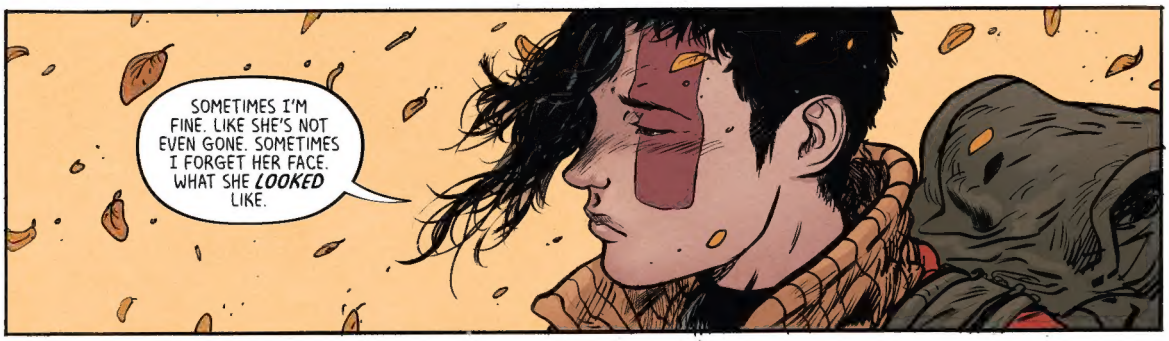
I WALK THROUGH YOU.


YOUR SPIRIT BE WITH ME. YOUR MEMORIES BE WITH ME.

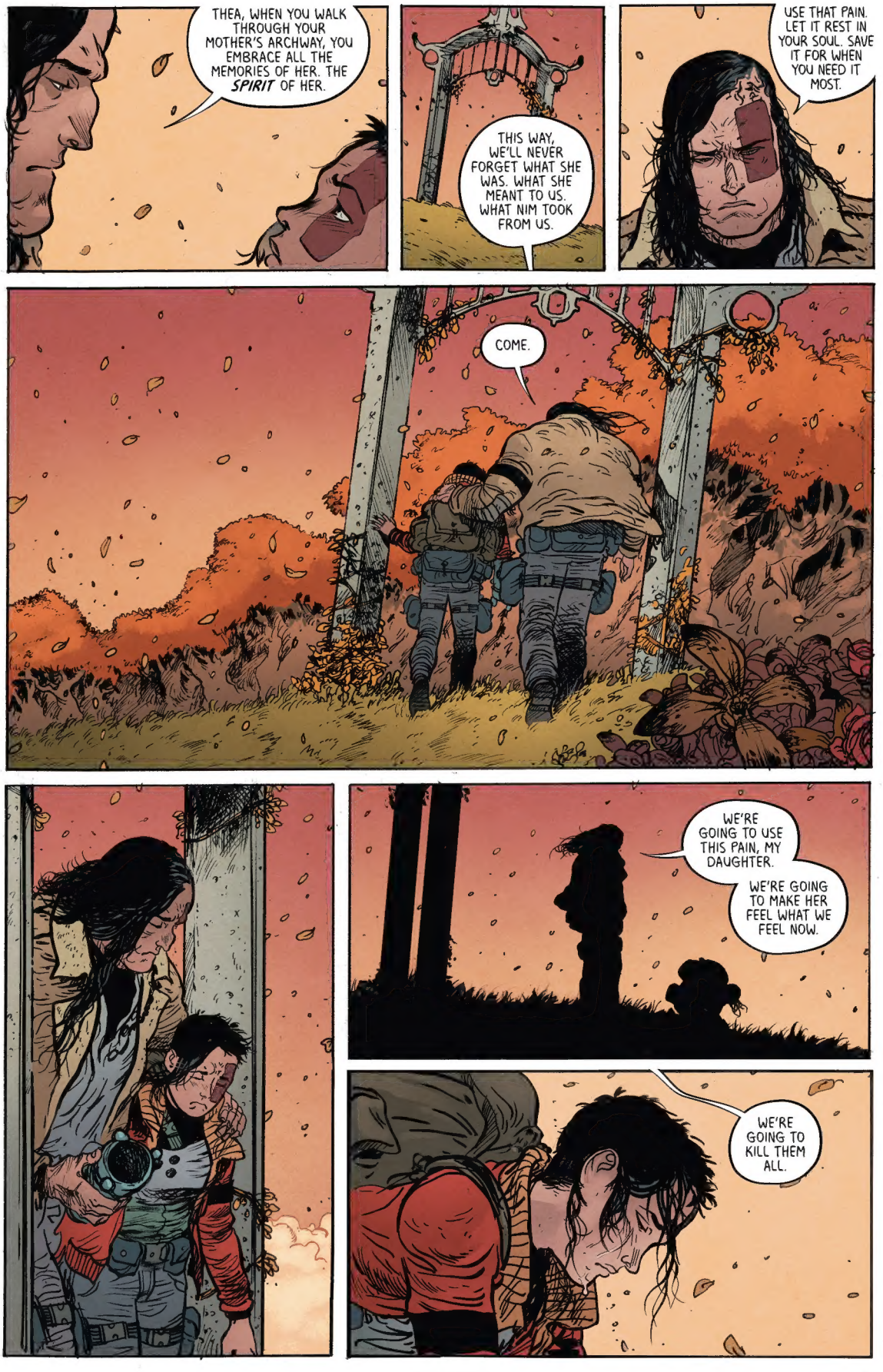
I MISS YOU.


THEA?

ARE YOU COMING THROUGH?
I CAN'T, DAD. I CAN'T.


SOMETIMES I'M FINE. LIKE SHE'S NOT EVEN GONE. SOMETIMES I FORGET HER FACE. WHAT SHE ***LOOKED*** LIKE.

THE SOUND OF HER VOICE, THE SCENT OF HER HAIR... EVERYTHING'S FADED, LIKE I'M WADING IN THE GREAT BASIN, LOSING SIGHT OF THE SHORE.
UNTIL I SEE SOMETHING THAT REMINDS ME OF HER. THE NECKLACE SHE GAVE YOU. ROLLO'S FACE. THE SMELL OF THE SEASON TURNING.
AND THE WAVES OF THAT TERRIBLE OCEAN HIT ME FROM BEHIND.
THEY DROWN ME.
EVERY YEAR, WE'VE COME TO HER GRAVE AND WALKED THROUGH HER SPIRIT, AND EVERY YEAR IT GETS HARDER.
DAD...WHEN WILL IT STOP HURTING?
NEVER.


THEA, WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH YOUR MOTHER'S ARCHWAY, YOU EMBRACE ALL THE MEMORIES OF HER. THE *SPIRIT* OF HER.
THIS WAY, WE'LL NEVER FORGET WHAT SHE WAS. WHAT SHE MEANT TO US. WHAT NIM TOOK FROM US.
USE THAT PAIN. LET IT REST IN YOUR SOUL. SAVE IT FOR WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST.
COME.
WE'RE GOING TO USE THIS PAIN, MY DAUGHTER.
WE'RE GOING TO MAKE HER FEEL WHAT WE FEEL NOW.
WE'RE GOING TO KILL THEM ALL.

I SEE SOMETHING!
ON THE HAZDA PLAIN, LOWER STARBOARD!
BRING US IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK!
GRAB!
AYE AYE! TURNING TO STARBOARD!
KLAK
BREEEE
RELEASING PRESSURIZERS!
MOTHER. WHAT'S GOING ON?
A TEACHING MOMENT OF SORTS.
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU LET ANIMALS ROAM FREE, MY DAUGHTER.

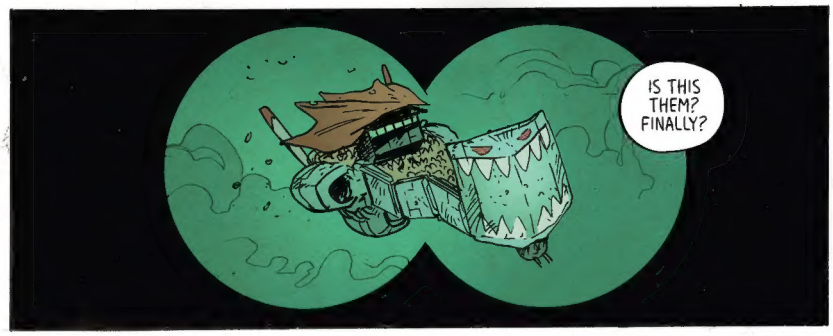
CHAOS AND DEATH.
ORDERS, MY QUEEN?
I KNOW WHERE THEY'RE GOING NEXT...
TURN US AROUND, CAPTAIN.
WE MAKE FOR THE ARCHED ISLAND.

HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN NOW?

THREE? FOUR? SEEMS LIKE ONLY LAST SEASON YOU COULD STILL PERCH ON MY SHOULDER.

THAT'S A GOOD GIRL. I'LL SEE YOU TONIGHT.
DAG!
CLIK

JESSICA? WHAT IS IT?

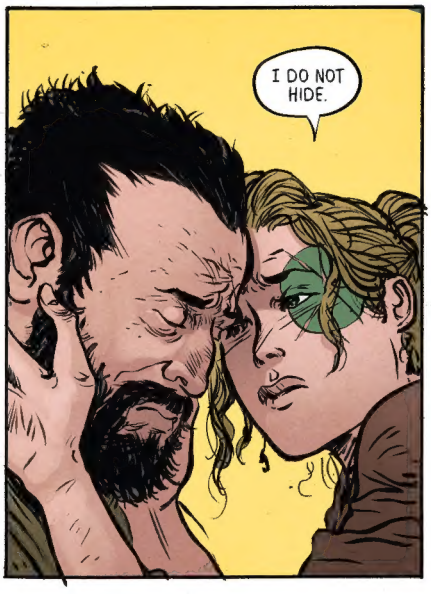

IS THIS THEM? FINALLY?

YES. GET IN THE HOUSE.

CAN'T YOU FIGHT THEM? WITH YOUR--
NO. THERE'S TOO MANY.

YOU CAN ESCAPE. TAKE THE AIRSHIP.

I AM THE WIFE OF DAG BEGNAR.

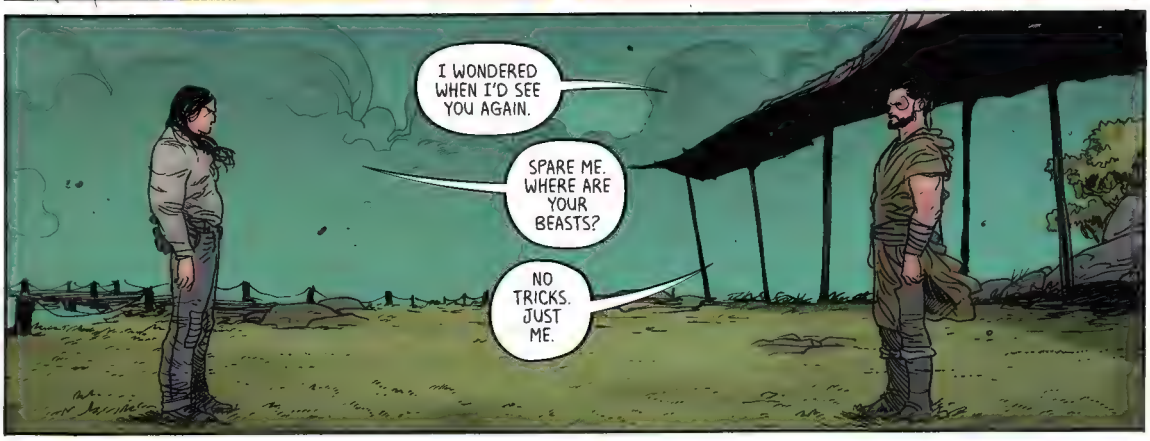

I DO NOT HIDE.

I'LL BE HERE WITH *YOU.*

"FACING WHATEVER MAY COME."
UNLESS SOLDIERS ARE PRESENT, NO ONE ATTACKS.
SHE WAS MY WIFE.
THUNK
THAT MAKES THIS MY FIGHT.

DAG.

JEROME.


I WONDERED WHEN I'D SEE YOU AGAIN.
SPARE ME. WHERE ARE YOUR BEASTS?
NO TRICKS. JUST ME.

GOOD. THIS WAY WILL BE MORE SATISFYING.
JEROME...

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH...

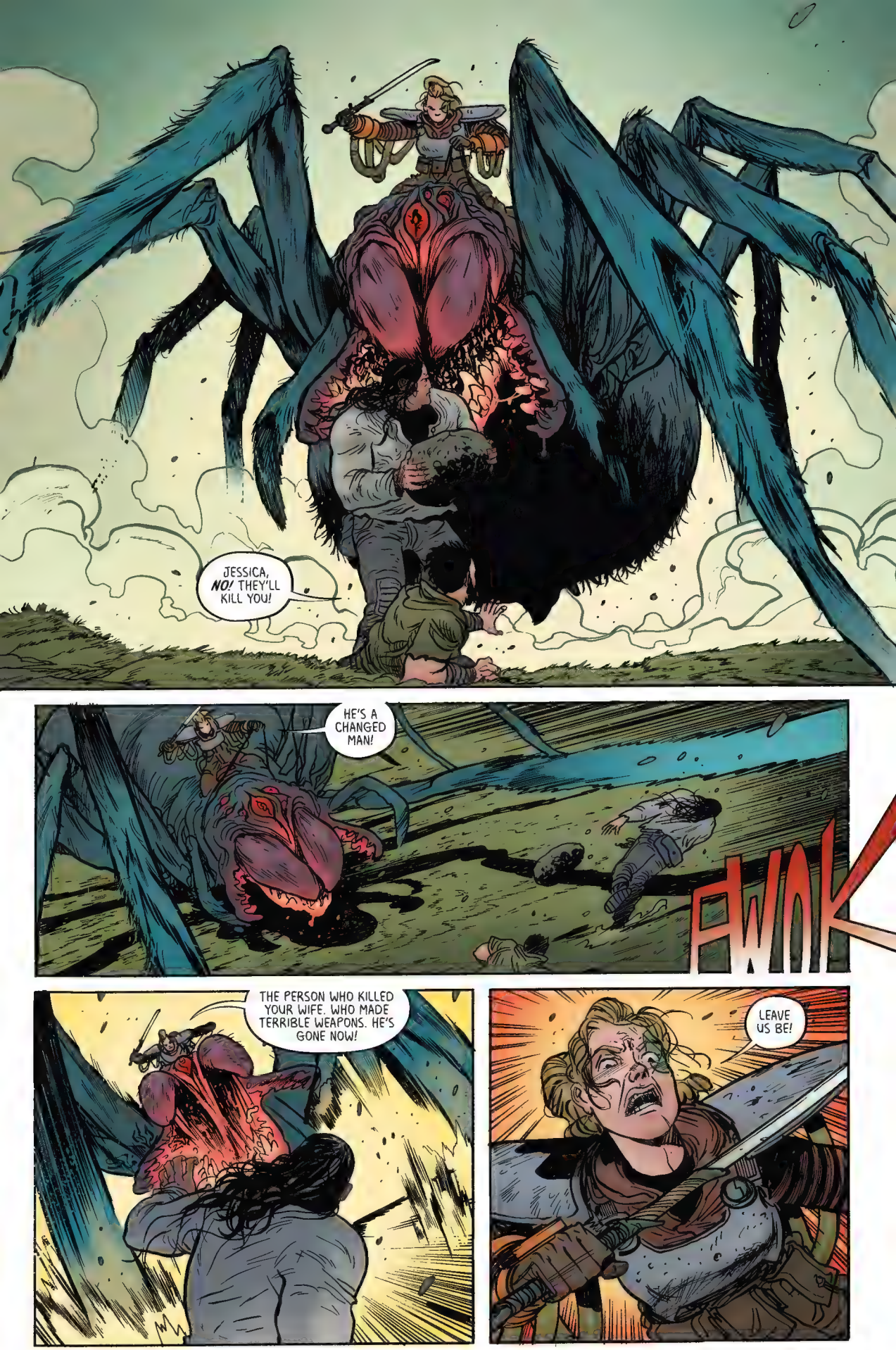
"I'M SORRY."

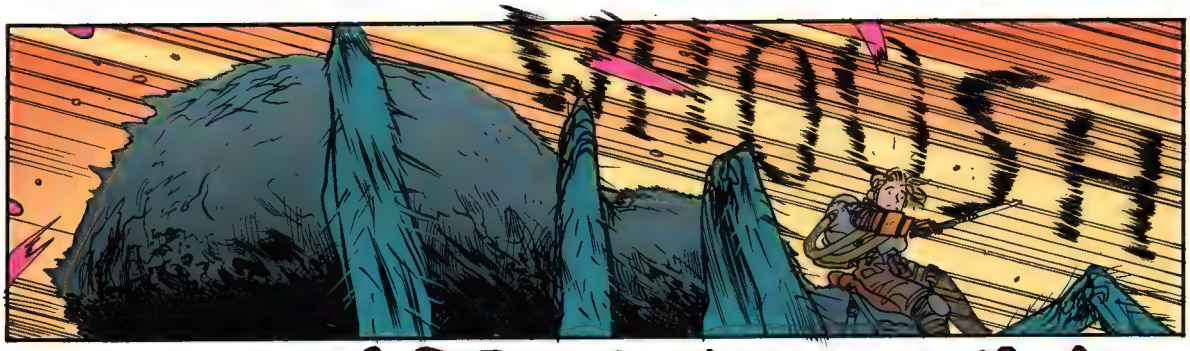
IT'S WORTH NOTHING.

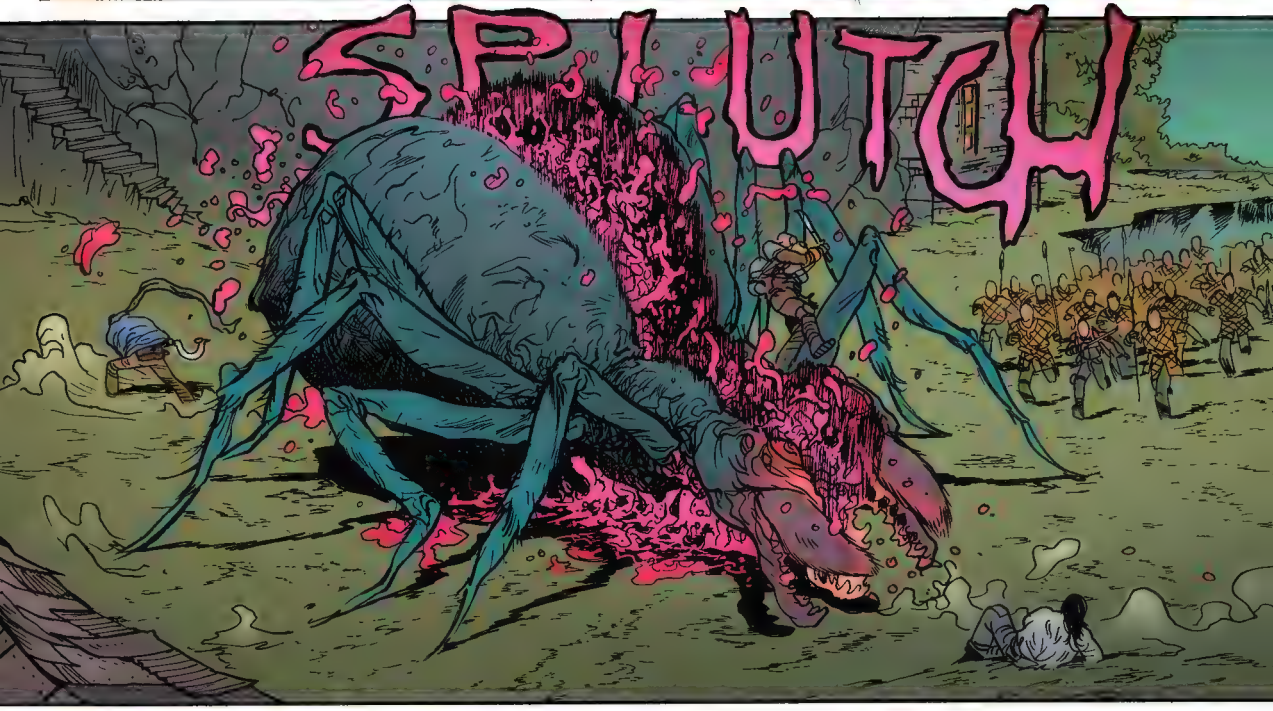
WHISH
SUCK
FWAP
HNGH!
PAFF

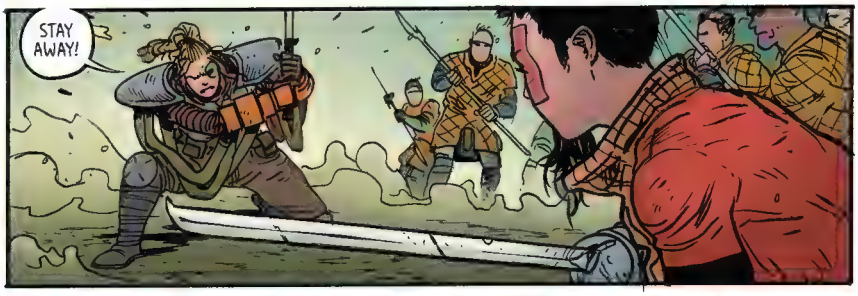
BOOM
THUNK
WOKK
THUMP

TACKLE
THOM
GET AWAY FROM HIM!

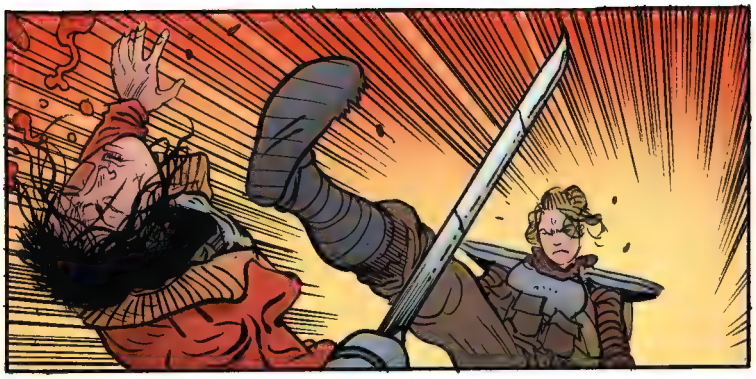

JESSICA, NO! THEY'LL KILL YOU!
HE'S A CHANGED MAN!
FWOK
THE PERSON WHO KILLED YOUR WIFE. WHO MADE TERRIBLE WEAPONS. HE'S GONE NOW!
LEAVE US BE!

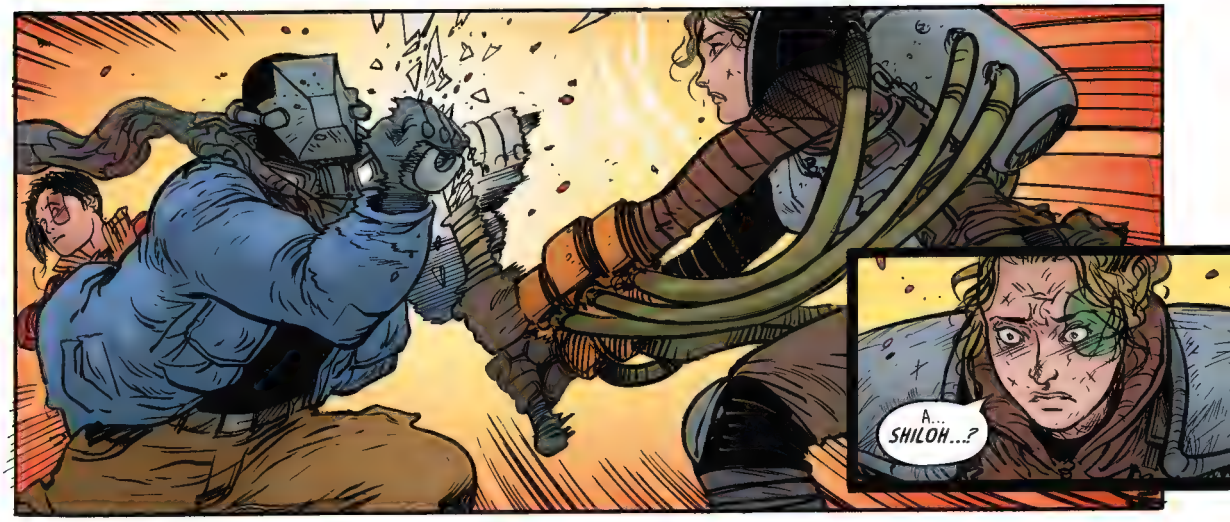


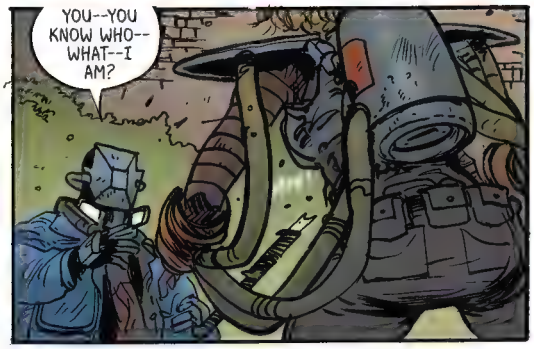

SPLUTCH


STAY AWAY!

RAGHHH!
KA-TING!




A...
SHILOH...?

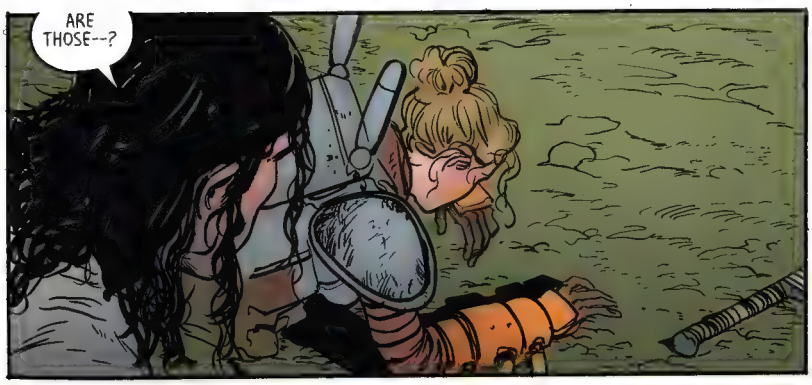

YOU--YOU KNOW WHO--WHAT--I AM?

SHILOH! WHY DO YOU HESITATE?

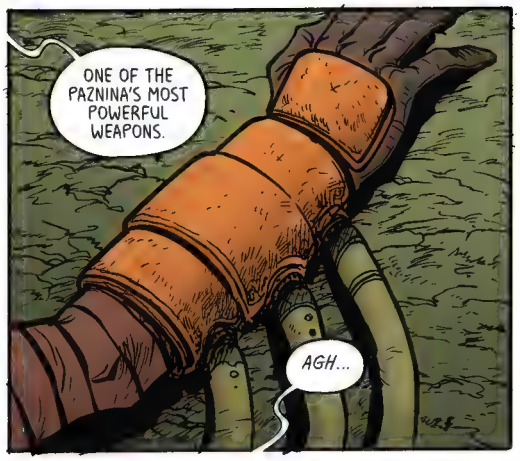
...WE NEVER THOUGHT WE'D SEE ONE OF YOU.

TOK

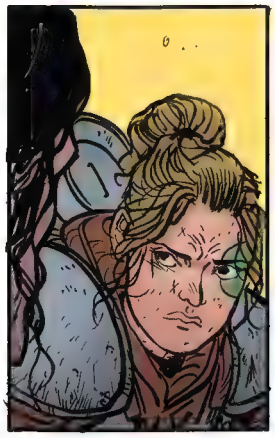
WAIT--
YOUR SKILLS ARE IMPRESSIVE, SHILOH, BUT YOUR FORTITUDE IS WEAK.


ARE THOSE--?

ELDERMIRE GAUNTLETS.


ONE OF THE PAZNINA'S MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS.
AGH...

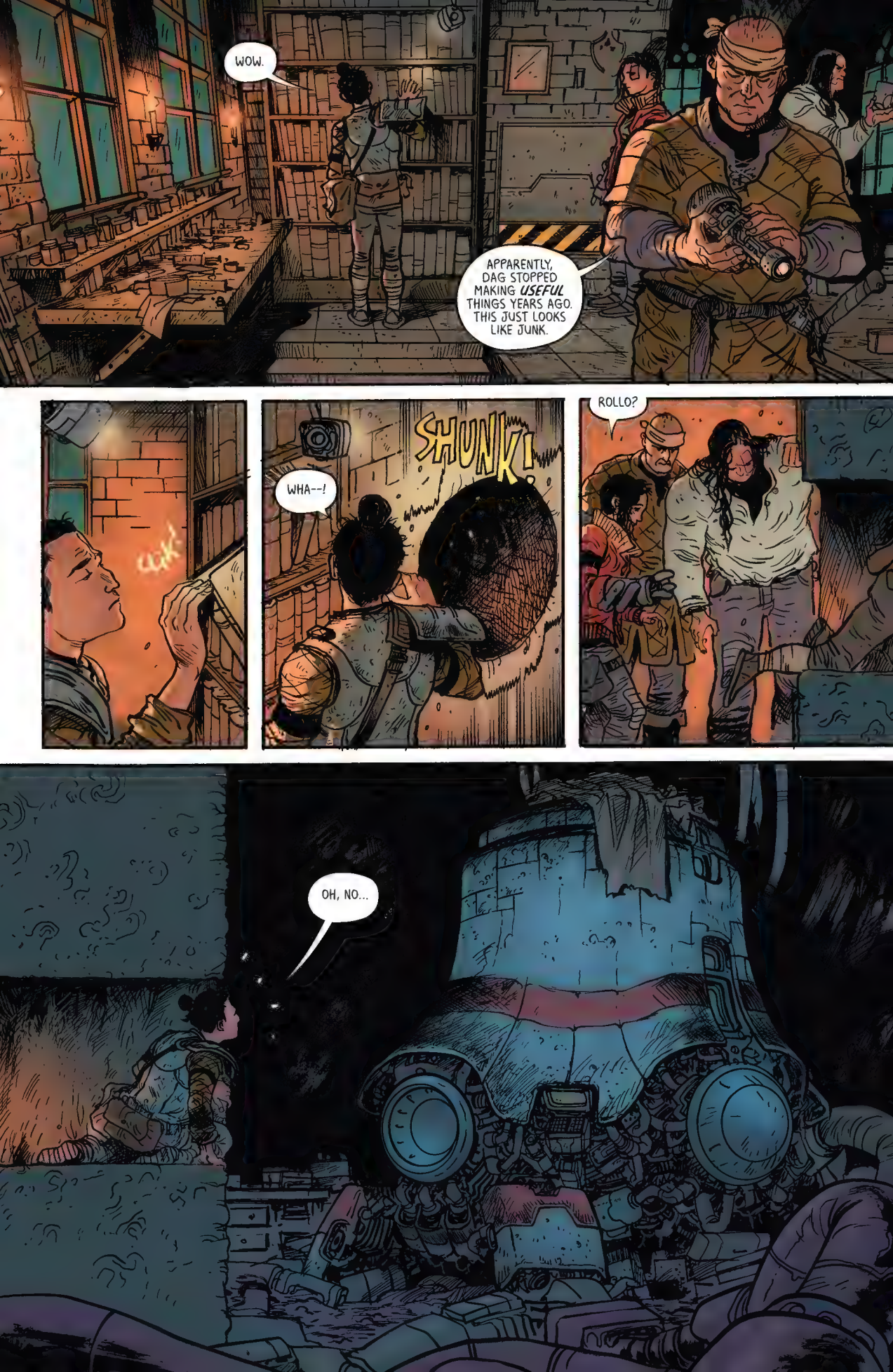
YOU KNEW WE WERE COMING. WHY DID YOU STAY?

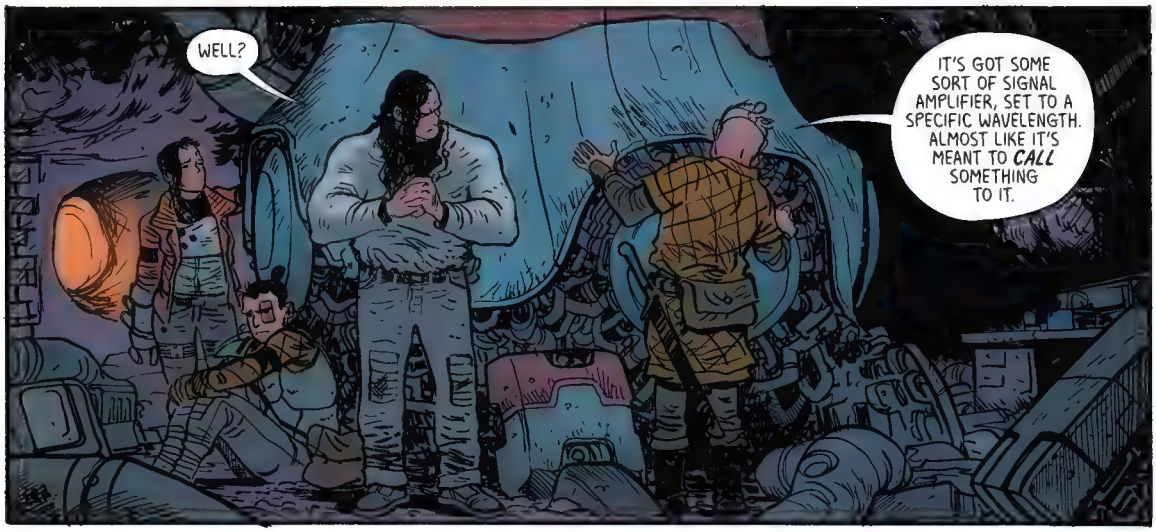


TAKE OFF THE GAUNTLETS. BRING HER INSIDE.
WHAT IS IT?

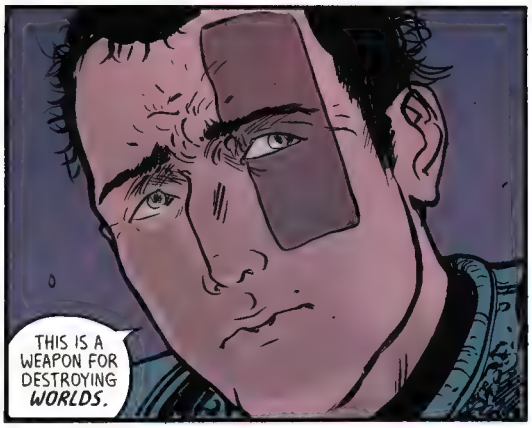
YOU SHOULD HAVE LEFT.

WHAT IS IN THE TASTE OF BLOOD THAT SOOTHES YOU?


WOW.
APPARENTLY, DAG STOPPED MAKING *USEFUL* THINGS YEARS AGO. THIS JUST LOOKS LIKE JUNK.
WHA--!
SHUNK!
ROLLO?
OH, NO...


WELL?
IT'S GOT SOME SORT OF SIGNAL AMPLIFIER, SET TO A SPECIFIC WAVELENGTH. ALMOST LIKE IT'S MEANT TO *CALL* SOMETHING TO IT.

A BEACON.
WHAT?
TO CALL THE BEASTS OF THE DEEP. *ALL* OF THEM.

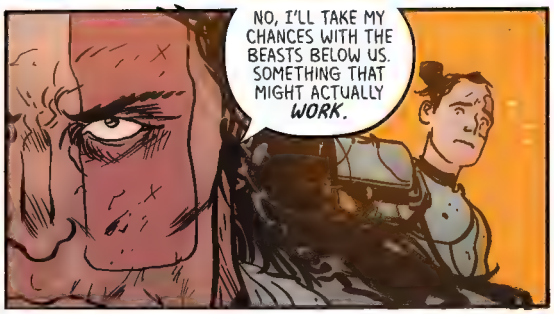

THIS IS A WEAPON FOR DESTROYING *WORLDS.*

NOT *YET* IT AIN'T. NO POWER.
DONG
DONG
WE'LL BE SEARCHING FOR BATTERIES FOR MONTHS JUST TO GET THIS THING GOING.

DAD--

DAD-- PLEASE-- YOU DON'T WANT TO--

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I WANT, ROLLO. THE PAZNINA *GONE* FROM THIS WORLD.
SO TELL ME, HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE WITH AN INDESTRUCTIBLE WARRIOR *THAT WON'T KILL HIS ENEMIES?!*


NO, I'LL TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THE BEASTS BELOW US. SOMETHING THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY *WORK*.

ROLLO-- GET BACK HERE!

"ROLLO!"
SHILOH, WE HAVE TO LEAVE! RIGHT NOW!

WHAT?
MY DAD, THEY-- THEY FOUND SOMETHING IN DAG'S WORKSHOP, AND THEY WANT YOUR BATTERY TO POWER IT!

THEY'RE COMING TO TAKE IT OUT OF YOU! WE HAVE TO GO!

I SAW A DOCKED AIR SKIFF WHEN WE LANDED, IF WE HURRY--

SO, THIS IS WHAT IT COMES TO?

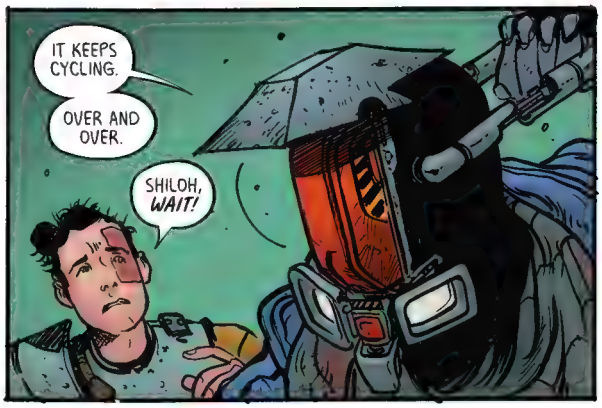
YOU CHOOSE A PIECE OF METAL OVER YOUR OWN FAMILY?
YOU'RE NO SON OF MINE.

IF YOU WANT HIM, YOU'LL HAVE TO COME THROUGH ME FIR--
ROLLO. NO.

DON'T YOU SEE?
ALL THIS HATRED.

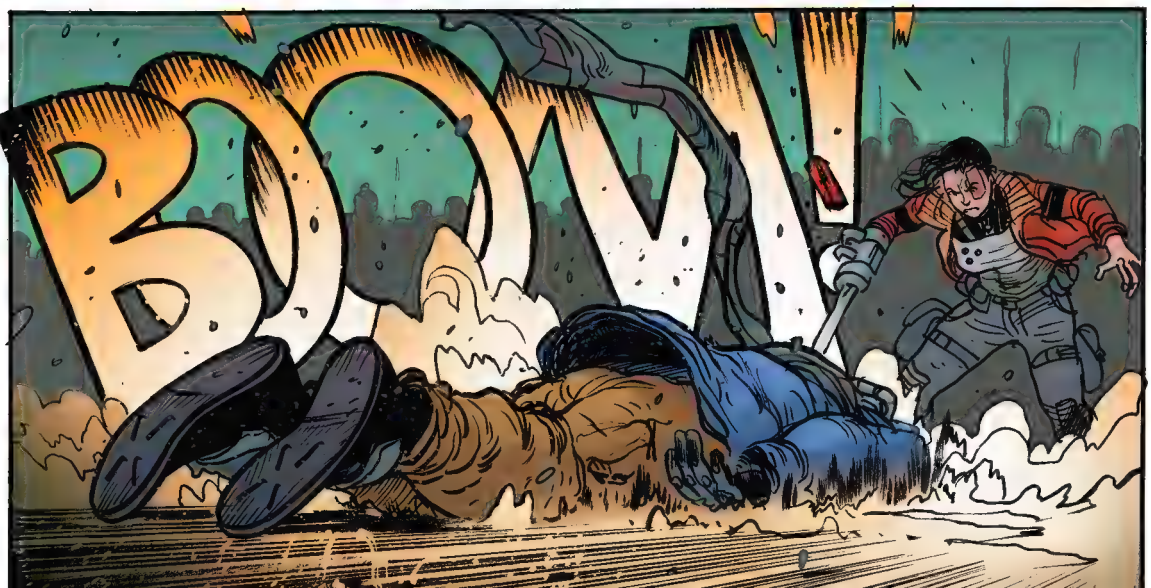
ANGER.

FEAR.

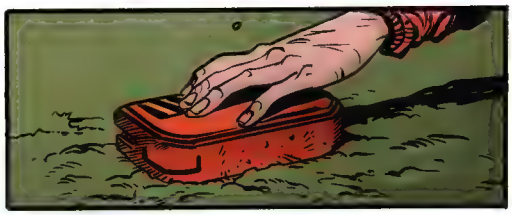

IT KEEPS CYCLING.
OVER AND OVER.
SHILOH, WAIT!

A MACHINE THAT NEVER STOPS.
UNTIL SOMETHING INTERRUPTS THE COG.

YANK

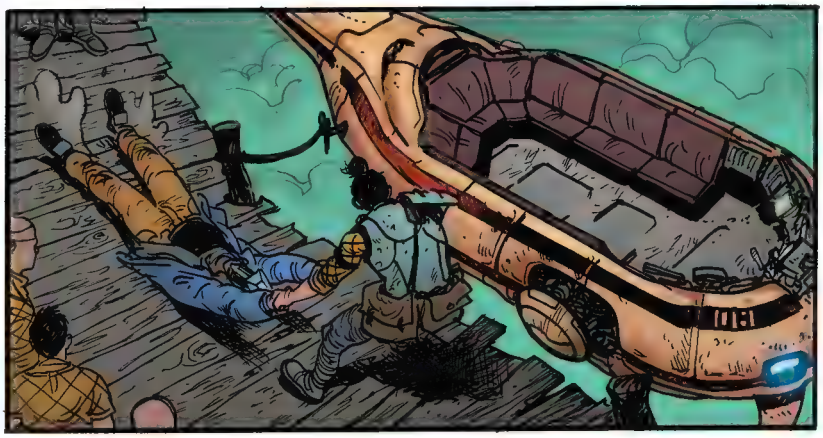

BOOM!

BUT...



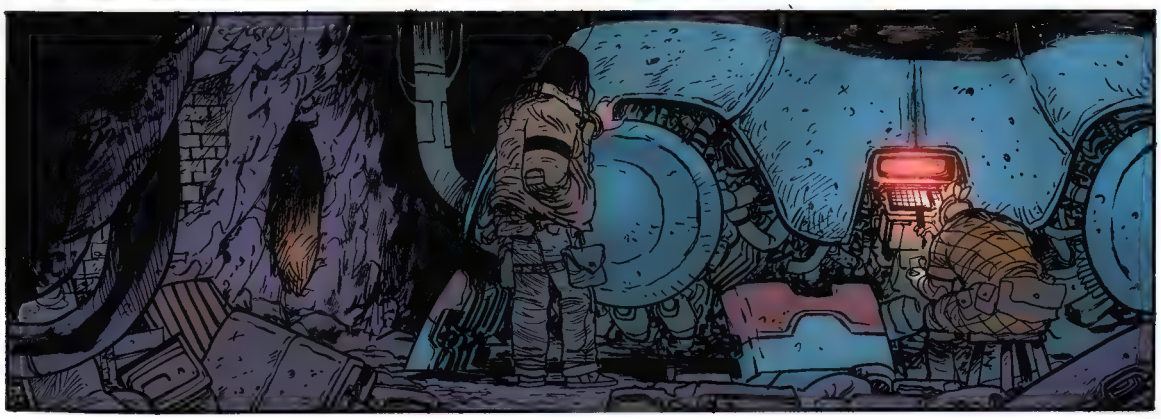
BUT, SHILOH...

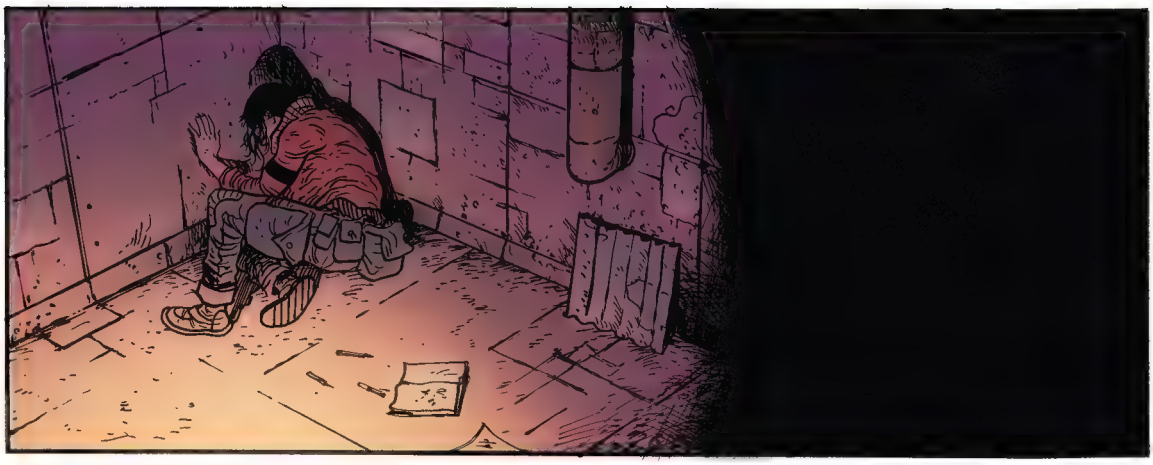
...YOU'RE ALL I HAVE *LEFT* NOW.



ROLLO--WAI--
YOU'VE CHOSEN YOUR PATH, THEA.

...AND I WANT NO PART OF IT.





Well, this confrontation with Dag didn't go as planned. If it wasn't clear from the series so far, this road that Thea is travelling is going to have disastrous effects on her and her family.

Thanks for staying with us this far! I think it's clear by now (and probably clear from issue one) that this revenge story has a bit more of a twist. I hope everyone's still enjoying this tale, and that you could read my joy in the art on these pages. That spider was absolutely one of the most fun things I've ever drawn, period.

On to letters!

Dear Mr. Johnson

This is my first time reaching out to the creator of a comic book because, due to a recent life-changing incident, this is the first time I've felt compelled to do so. On March 1st, I was working on a traditional wooden recurve bow in my woodshop (I'm a woodworker amongst other things) and I had about half the length of four of my fingers ground and ripped off my left hand by a machine aptly named a jointer. After some time of confining myself to my home, I decided to make my first venture out into the world a walk to my local comic book shop in Brooklyn. I'm not exaggerating when I say the first thing my eyes fell upon after walking through the door was Extremity 1, prominently displayed on the "New This Week" rack -- a hand-less, bloodied character standing over a pile of vanquished foes. It couldn't have felt like more of a sign.

It may sound odd, but I wanted you to know how therapeutic it's been following Thea on her journey so far. The folly of anger, hatred, and vengeance at the hands of such a loss has served as a cautionary tale – a warning sign on a road down which I could so easily travel after my own loss. Not only that, but it's an inspiration for me to get back on the creative horse and back into the woodshop as soon as I'm able.

So, thank you. Please keep up the excellent work as I am now happily fully committed to following your entire run as well as whatever work you have to show us down the road.

Sincerely,
Eric Clem
brooklynbowyer.com

P.S. If you have a strong stomach and desire for artistic inspiration, I have some CHOICE photos of the gory accident.

P.P.S. The jointer in my woodshop is now named Asmund. I plan on being more merciful than Thea.

I want to say send the photos, which I'll have forgotten I wrote until the moment I open the attachments... but better to keep them to yourself. (Unless Daniel wants them, of course.) I can't conceive of what you went through, but I'm glad you found our comic. It seems to have struck a chord with folks outside our normal Skybound readership, and we're better for it.

Holy crap. Eric, thanks for your story, and I'm sorry for the loss of your fingers. Reading this gave me goosebumps, partly out of horror, but mostly from the realization of how a comic book story can affect so many different people in so many different ways. It amazes me. Thank you again for your honesty and courage, and I wish

you luck going forward.

I will pass on the photos, however! (But the new name of your jointer had my wife and I laughing for an entire evening) Also, I checked out your site. Stunning work!

To Mr Johnson

Wow, I just want to say thank you. Thank you for bringing a story with substance. The cover caught my attention when I was at the shop. "EXTREMITY", I just had to pick it up. Im sitting through a car ride but reading the first issue of your book made me feel... anticipation for whats to come. I can not wait for your next issue and thank you for putting a piece of yourself into the story. I am curious to hear more about yourself and more and how you relate to Thea or the book in totality. Find your inspiration and keep writing you have got a good thing going.

An excited reader,
Miguel

Thanks for the kind words, Miguel. Thea definitely feels like a part of me in some ways, and in others, she's like a complete stranger. I was scared to tell this story for a while, because I thought that I didn't have the authority to tell a story of a person challenging the world around them after being wronged so horribly. But if one thing is clear as I've written and drawn EXTREMITY, it's that Thea has a life all her own, and I don't know where she came from, but she's strong, and her decisions have surprised me in wonderful ways.

Hi Daniel!

I just finished Extremity #1 (I know I'm a bit behind, life is distracting) and I LOVED it. As a musician I've always felt that the loss of my hands would be the end of my life. Exploring this concept through the comic medium in the world that you have created is very captivating. I look forward to see how Thea expresses her artistic self. Art and violence can be so connected in so many ways and seeing Thea let out her inner anger is empowering. I'm truly looking forward to more and as a final sign off would love to say how much I'm enjoying you and Mike's art direction, truly makes the story engaging.

Thanks!
Goddamnit Jonny

I am a musician as well, Jonny, so I hear you! I mostly draw, but I've been playing guitar since I was eleven, and a big part of the fear that sparked EXTREMITY also came from the thought of not being able to shred anymore. Thank you for writing in, and for including Mike Spicer in your heaping of praise. He deserves every ounce of it!

Daniel Warren Johnson,

I Nearly got through with reading the whole issue without having to skim ahead from boredom! Wait...that isn't good, is it? WHY is this series called "Extremity", anyway? It's not all bad, certainly. But–it's not all there, or all that, either.

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

Oh, Shaw, you seem to find every Skybound title, whether they're right for you or not. Do we REALLY need to spell out why this comic is called EXTREMITY? Feels like a poor use of time.

Apparently, Shaw, you are a local legend among the Skybound offices, and your name comes up during Skybound dinners, as well! I was told it was only a matter of time before I heard from you. Rather than explain the WHY of the title, I think it'd be fun to tell the HOW. The title EXTREMITY was in fact, NOT my idea. My good friend and fellow comic book artist, Ryan Lee (@Ryleeart), was helping me workshop a few different titles, because the original title to this series was HORRIBLE, and will never be spoken again. As soon as he said it, I knew it was the one. So here's to you, Ryan. I'm literally having a sip of whiskey right now in your honor.

I haven't been aware of Daniel Warren Johnson for too long, only since march of this year, or more specifically at Emerald City Comic Con, and if there were any better way to find an amazing artist/writers work I cannot think of one. I bought SPACE-MULLET! with above average expectations and boy were those expectations blown out of the water, a gripping ever changing plot, fantastic characterization and not to mention the art, even when limited to a monochromatic color palette this was one of the most creative and drop dead stunning art styles I've ever gazed upon. So when I first heard of extremity you can imagine my eagerness to see what's in store and lets just say, remember those expectations I had for space mullet I mentioned a little bit ago? Well, the ones I had for extremity were shot at light speed head first into a comet soaring past Saturn. Extremity has dazzled me and left me super hyped for the next issue, in just this one issue this universe and it's characters have become clear and meaningful in my mind, and to see Johnson's (Warren Johnson's?) artwork in full scrumptious color is reason enough alone for me to love this comic.

Thank you, to both writer and artist, for creating such a thing as Extremity and I hope and expect only amazing things to come.

Gunner from Washington

I started out as a *Space Mullet* fan, too, and it's jaw dropping to see Daniel's growth between series. That's not a backhanded compliment—it's like he was great before, and now he's better, somehow. He just sent me pages from #10 that left me floored.

Thanks, Gunner! It's great to hear that you were a fan of *Space-Mullet* before EXTREMITY came out. You have truly seen my humble beginnings! At first I was embarrassed at the first fifty pages or so of Space-Mullet, but the more that I look back on them, the more I'm reminded of how hard I was working. Every day, I was trying to get better, and I'm proud of that. SO HEAR ME, all you artists who think your work sucks! Be proud of where you're at. Keep at it. You'll get there.

First time that I've attempt to send a letter to a comic book, i like simple so I would be simple, this is aiming to be one of the best comics of 2017. At least it already is for me.

That's all, my best regards. - Luis.

Namaste.

I like simple, too, so: thanks!

Short, sweet, and very generous! You rock, Luis!

Hopefully, we'll see you next month, where Daniel and Mike have created a spread so gorgeous you have to turn the issue sideways to capture its full beauty... and Jerome takes more extreme measures with Dag.

-Sean Mackiewicz
@seanmackiewicz

Vertical double-page spreads are my favorite! So I drew one! Which you'll get to see! IN THIRTY DAYS! See you all then, and thanks for all your incredible support so far!

-Daniel Warren Johnson
@danielwarrenart

image
Daniel Warren Johnson Mike Spicer
SKYBOUND
EXTREMITY
ISSUE 5 AVAILABLE JULY 2017

Blood Runs Deep

REDNECK™

Donny CATES Lisandro ESTHERREN Dee CUNNIFFE

AVAILABLE NOW

image

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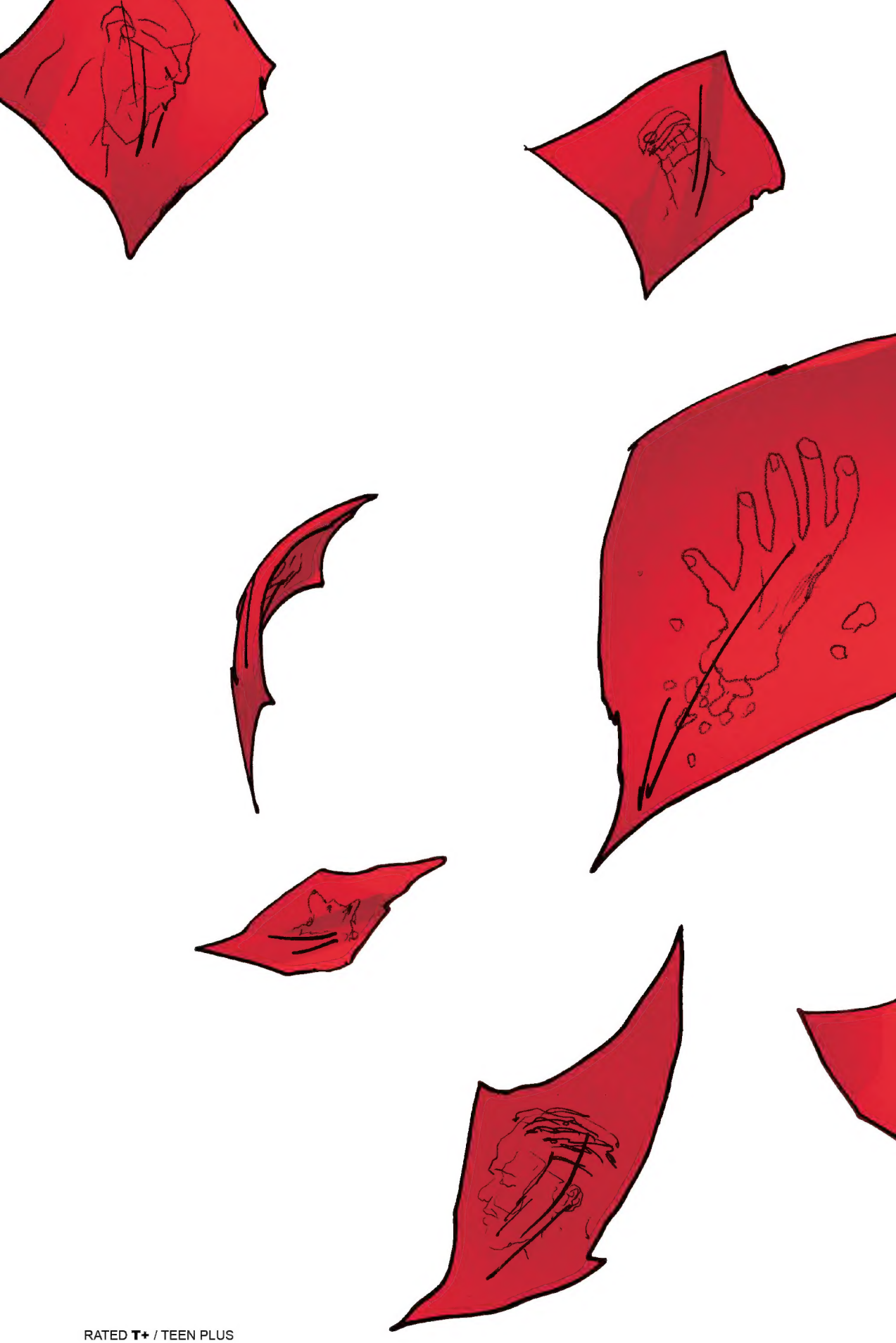

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